

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 09552 270505Z

17

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 MC-02

ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 /063 W

----- 069985

R 270444Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4670

INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY MANILA

SECDEF WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 9552

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SN, TH, RP, IS

SUBJ: M-16 RIFLES FOR THAILAND

REF : BANGKOK 8931

1. EMBASSY OFFICER MET WITH COLT'S SOUTHEAST ASIA REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE, BEHRENDT, ON MAY 22, 1975 HERE IN BANGKOK. BEHRENDT INFORMS US THAT CHARTERED INDUSTRIES, SINGAPORE HAS ONLY GIVEN LIP SERVICE TO BACK PAYMENT OF ROYALTIES AND COLT IS GOING TO BREAK THE CONTRACT FOR CAUSE. COLT THEN PLANS TO NEGOTIATE THROUGH THEIR LOCAL AGENT FOR DIRECT M-16 SALES WITH THE RTG.

2. BEHRENDT CONFIRMED THAT KRIANGSAK HAS BEEN SHOPPING FOR 50,000 M-16S FOR RTA IN SINGAPORE BUT HE BELIEVES THE ASPECT OF RTG CONSIDERING THE CONVERSION OF THEIR H&K PLANT TO COLT PRODUCTION IS A THAI PLOY TO PRESSURE CHARTERED INDUSTRIES. WE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THIS ASPECT. ALSO, THAI HAVE BEEN ALERTED BY COLT AGENT OF ALLEGED POOR QUALITY OF SINGAPORE M-16S (NON-CHROME BORES, NON-CHROME BOLT CARRIER KEYS, NO BOLT ASSIST ASSEMBLY, ETC.) AS EXPERIENCED BY THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BANGKO 09552 270505Z

PHILIPPINES IN THEIR PURCHASE OF 10,000 M-16S FROM SINGAPORE.

EMBASSY MANILA MAY WISH TO COMMENT.

3. WE ALSO LEARNED FROM BEHRENDT THAT ISRAEL IS INTERESTED
IN THE PURCHASE OF 80,000 M-16S AND THEIR DEFENSE ATTACHE
HERE IN BANGKOK HAS BEEN INQUIRING ABOUT THE QUALITY OF
THE SINGAPORE PRODUCT.
WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, MILITARY SALES, ROYALTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO09552
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750184-0448
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750515/aaaaamzk.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BANGKOK 8931
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <23 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: M-16 RIFLES FOR THAILAND
TAGS: MASS, SN, TH, RP, IS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006